The Gift of Giving

By Mansoor Ali Shah
لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

A cozy evening at home

Mansoor sits beside his father, watching him count money before placing it in an envelope.

Mansoor: Baba, why are you putting money in that envelope? Are you buying something special?

Baba: No, my dear. This is for our neighbor, Uncle Kareem. He has been struggling to buy food for his family.

Mansoor: But Baba, if you give him money, won't we have less for ourselves?

Baba: That's a good question, my son. Do you remember what our beloved Prophet ﷺ said? "If a man spends on his family (with the intention of having a reward from Allah) sincerely for Allah's sake, then it is a (kind of) alms-giving in reward for him."

Mansoor: So, when you help someone, you also get a reward from Allah?

Baba: Exactly! When we give sincerely, Allah blesses us even more. Helping others never makes us poorer; instead, it brings barakah (blessings) into our lives.

Mansoor: Oh! So when you buy me food, clothes, and toys, you also get a reward from Allah?

Baba: Yes, my dear. Taking care of our family is also a form of charity. That's why I always make sure to provide for you with love and gratitude.

Mansoor: Baba, can I also help? I have some money in my piggy bank. Maybe I can add a little to the envelope?

Baba: That is a beautiful thought, Mansoor! Giving, even in small amounts, is loved by Allah. It's not about how much we give, but how sincerely we give it.

Mansoor excitedly runs to fetch his savings and places a few coins in the envelope. Baba smiles and hugs him warmly.

Mansoor: Baba, I feel really happy inside!

Baba: That's the joy of giving, my son. When we help others, we not only earn rewards from Allah but also fill our hearts with happiness and peace.

Mansoor nods, feeling proud and content, learning a valuable lesson about generosity and sincerity.